

## MORE ARRESTS IN 1908 THAN IN ANY PREVIOUS YEAR

But That is no Proof That the City is  
Growing Wicked—It Means Police  
Are More Active.

Thieves and Other Criminals are Grow-  
ing Clever Every Year and Depart-  
ment Must Keep Pace With Them.

A large number of arrests in a given time is not an indication that a community is extraordinarily vicious. It is rather an indication that the police of the community is thorough. So because more arrests were made in the city of Bridgeport during the year just closed than in any previous year no one should hastily arrive at the conclusion that the morals of the people have been degenerating. The year has perhaps developed the fact that the police force is more active than that in other cities. The local department stands high in the estimation of the other departments. This is demonstrated by the promptness with which all communications from this city receive replies. A list of articles stolen in Bridgeport is immediately acknowledged by every department which receives it. Other departments feel sure that when criminals they are seeking come to this city they will be captured in a short time.

The Bridgeport force during the year has not received any material increase. Only four men have been added to the department. There are now 99 officers and men. The peace and safety of the 100,000 inhabitants of this city are in the hands of this handful of men. The 13½ square miles of territory are covered by the police. Tailoring out the men who are off duty, the officers and those who are specially detailed, there are never more than 30 men on duty at one time. Has the reader ever pondered over the responsibility that rests on this handful of men in authority? Were the community essentially vicious would it be possible for this force to hold disorder in check?

It is impossible to give a complete report of the work of the department for the year, but let us see what has been done in the 11 months for which reports have been compiled.

The total number of arrests has been 2,541, females 236. The cases in which drunkenness figure lead off as is almost always the case in police annals. There were 588 arrests for this offense during the year. Assaults 434, theft 255, burglary 28, robbery 5, and rape 5. These are only the most important of the crimes. During the year the police recovered stolen goods to the value of over \$8,000.

During the year there have been only four burglaries of any importance. These were at the Ludlum, Grippin, Moses and Fairchild residences.

Hard times are instantly felt by the police department. Petty thefts and drunkenness increase when men are out of work. Strange as it may seem, men who have difficulty in getting enough to eat can still find plenty to drink. Then men out of work have more time to visit the saloon and less care about overindulgence, for they do not have to go to work on the dreadfully next morning. Thefts by professionals are not affected to any great degree by business conditions. But petty thieving, with necessity as a compelling motive, increases in about the same ratio that work decreases.

Last October furnished the police more business than any previous month in the history of the city. There were 407 arrests during the month. Business conditions were not to blame for this increase. Among the causes was the activity of the Law Enforcement organization which resulted in arrests for liquor violations in batches as often as three. Very few convictions resulted as the detectives sent here to work for the league were irresponsible and were unable to support their complaints by actual evidence. Some of them laid themselves liable to prosecution for perjury which would have undoubtedly followed had they remained in the city. While this activity outside of the department undoubtedly made the league more cautious it affected the good name of the city materially.

During the year the Board of Aldermen increased the pay of the members of the department by resolution, but only the officers have been benefited by it so far. The patrolmen have taken their claims into court and there is little doubt that they will eventually receive the additional wage without the make shift of resigning as the officers were obliged to do. This proceeding was not a very dignified ruse to evade the law of the city which provides that the salary of no official of the city shall be increased during his term of office. The law was made for the good of the city in a general way, but should not have been so constructed originally as to include the police department. The three grades of patrolmen were raised as follows: From \$2.50 to \$2.75 per day, from \$2.63½ to \$3, from \$2.90 to \$3.25. All of the officers with the exception of the superintendent and two others were raised \$1.00 per year. The superintendent received an increase of only \$1.00. Supt. Birmingham had no application for an increase, stating that he was satisfied with his present remuneration.

There has been only one murder in the city during the year, and this was not an aggravated case. The crimes which have come to the attention of the police have been largely the outgrowth of the increase in the number of those who carry concealed weapons. In spite of the recent legislation and the severe penalties inflicted in the city court there never were as many armed men going about the streets of the city as at present. Twenty years ago it was seldom that a prisoner was arrested for carrying arms. At present a large proportion of the aggravated crimes come through this practice.

The police force of the city is generally respected by the citizens. Under the command of Supt. Birmingham there has been no wandering or insubordination. In fact this has been the rule during the whole of the 14 years in which he has been at the head of the department. While there is the best of feeling between the officers and men no department in the country is better disciplined. The men are not driven to service by fear of punishment, but respect their superiors and enter into the spirit of making the department one of the best in the country with a hearty good will. This is largely due to the influence of the man at the head. The increase in the number of street arrests has operated to the improvement of the service. The get-rich-quick mania is to blame for a large increase in dishonest meth-

ods of getting money. The police have become cleverer every year and the detective force has had hard work to keep pace with the new methods introduced among criminals as well as in every other branch of the world's activities. So Captain Arnold and his three sergeants have been kept busy all the time. The work they have done may be estimated in a small degree by the fact that they have recovered stolen property to the value of about \$8,000 during the year. They have had numberless cases to look up and a large part of their successful work is never known to those outside of the department. They are entitled to much more credit than they receive. Persons who have lost their valuables through carelessness in leaving them about handy for thieves are indignant if the detective department does not return the stolen goods immediately. Such people should stop and think a moment before they complain. The stolen property may be 100 miles from the city before the detectives are notified of the loss. While it would be a nice and creditable thing to do the department could not with ten times its present appropriation follow up every theft in the most efficient manner. As to the prevention of theft it would be necessary to station an officer in every household to absolutely secure people against the results of their own carelessness.

One amusing feature of the reports of regularity of the police as they are reported to headquarters and from there to the newspapers. The loss on most any burglary can be divided by three to get somewhere near the actual value of the property taken. Almost everyone nowadays who possesses fine jewelry has it insured against theft. This fact operates to make people careless. Naturally the property is not insured for any large sum, but sometimes it reaches a value which would astonish the dealers who sold it originally.

Take all in all the year has been a most satisfactory one. The board of Police Commissioners has been active and willing to sustain every creditable move on the part of the force. Prosecuting Attorney DeLaney and Frank H. Wilder, his assistant, have been at the authority of the department at any time when it was asked for. Judge John S. Pullman and Deputy Judge Carl Foster have raised the grade of the city court from a court of record to a court of appeals. In substitution of punishment to a dignified court where justice is dispensed with an unsparring hand but where mercy is always welcomed and her suggestions heeded.

## LODGE ROOM NOTES

Deputy Grand Master Joseph Dowling was unable to get to the city together last night thus postponing the installation of officers of Arcanum lodge, I. O. O. F. The lodge had made elaborate preparations for the occasion, and a large number of sandwiches, the roast and coffee was served, however.

Deputy Grand Master Peter Wetner and his staff installed the newly elected officers of Lessing lodge, I. O. O. F., last night. Following the meeting the usual social session with refreshments was enjoyed.

Court Marina, P. of A., postponed its installation of officers from last night to Jan. 15, as a social session with an entertainment will be held.

Members were initiated and fourteen applications were received at a meeting of Live Oak camp, W. O. W., last night. The installation of officers will take place at the coming week, last night by State Manager A. D. Rose.

**PALOL**, the palatable castor oil on sale at all drug stores. U. S. F.

**WALL STREET REVIEW.**

Good Reports of Business—Outlook Good—High Prices of Stocks.

New York, Jan. 1.—The year closed with a feeling of optimism in all branches of business and with the financial district bright and cheerful in marked contrast to the corresponding week of last year when there were dire predictions of calamity in the business world and a haze of blue covering the Street that could be cut with a knife. The week just closed saw a number of high prices for the year made in the stock market; New York Central on reports that E. H. Harriman was to enter the board of directors advanced sharply. Wisconsin Central on rumors of a change of control, perhaps the purchase of the road by the Canadian Pacific, was another; and Brunswick Dock, heretofore one of the dormant issues, displayed considerable strength on large buying orders from Holland and London. Washab issues made still further advances as did Denver & Rio Grande, the best of the Gold group.

The average price of stocks reached a point that showed a gain of 38.31 points above the low figures of November, 1908. The average was 119.80. This is a phenomenal recovery, as it has come without a reaction. Stocks are now on an average but 18.56 points under the highest point touched in January, 1908. A this would seem to be a recovery sufficient to discount the great deal more business improvement than has actually taken place. Stocks may continue to advance for the time being as sentiment is a powerful factor, but those that buy at these prices may find that it will be a long time before they see a profit on their purchases. Many of the low price railroads are still good purchases for "the long pull" but they should be bought with discrimination.

Good reports come from all lines of business, so it is easy to see that the outlook for 1909 is all that it should be, and if crops are good in 1909 this country will enter upon a boom that will carry prices on the stock exchange eventually to the highest point on record.

The horrible earthquake in Sicily will have but little effect on the market as the losses to the insurance companies will not be very great, and while wealth was destroyed it was not the wealth of the new world, and although the loss of life places the catastrophe as probably the greatest in the history of the world, it is more a loss of life than a loss of dollars.

The threat of trouble in Eastern Europe has passed and danger of a war appears to be remote. A war would have been a check to business here; but a stimulus here; but wealth would have been destroyed and eventually this country would have been forced to help pay the bill, for a loss of wealth now in any country is eventually felt in some way by all countries. However, all is well that ends well, and the year ends well enough, all things considered, and rarely has a new year come in with promises of good things so bright, as the promises that usher in 1909. May those promises bear the fruit of prosperity and the thousands who have died in 1908 reveal in plenty in the new year.

J. R. BURTON.

## RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Christ Episcopal church, Courtland street, R. E. J. Cris, rector. Holy communion, 8 a. m.; morning prayer, 10:30 a. m.; Sunday school, 12:15 p. m.; evening prayer 7:30.

First Congregational church, corner Broad and Bank streets, Rev. John DePeu, pastor. Sunday with sermon, 10:30 a. m. Second service, 4:30 p. m. Sunday school and Bible class at noon. Wednesday evening prayer meeting in the chapel, 7:45 o'clock.

Washington Park Methodist Episcopal church, corner of Noble and Barnum avenues, Rev. Charles Elmore Barto, pastor. Sunday morning service at 10:30. Monthly communion service. Evening service at 7:30 with sermon by the pastor, subject, "Life's Great Simile." Music by large chorus choir. Other services: Class meeting at 9:45. Sunday school at 12:15. Junior League at 4 p. m. Epworth League at 6:30 p. m.

First Church of Christ, Scientist, 871 Lafayette street. Service at 11 a. m. Subject: "God." Sunday school 12:15. Wednesday evening testimonial meeting at 8 o'clock. Reading room open every week day morning from 10 to 1, and every afternoon including Sunday, from 3 to 5. Services with sermon, 10:30 a. m. and 7:45 p. m. All are welcome to both the services, and to the privileges of the reading room.

West End Congregational Church, Colorado avenue, between Fairfield and State street, W. Irving Maurer, minister. Communion service tomorrow morning at 10:30 with reception of members. Sunday school at noon. Christian Endeavor meeting and consecration service at 6:30 p. m. Evening preaching service at 7:30. Subject, "The Man Who Dared to Face God." Special prayer service on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday evenings at 7:45.

King's Highway Cong. Spring St., near Noble avenue, P. E. Mathias, pastor. Service 10:45; Holy Communion and Reception of members, 12:15; S. S. 6:30; C. E. 7:30; preaching, Evening subject, "Good and Beautiful Uses of the Tongue." During the morning there will be an address to the boys and girls on "The Speaking Book."

People's Presbyterian Church, Lincoln Hall, 62 Cannon St., Minister Rev. H. A. Davenport, Divine worship 10:30 a. m. These services are held in the Reports of previous quarter, Sunday School, 12:10. Adult classes, 12 to 12:30; C. E. Consecration meetings 4 and 5 p. m. Personal workers 6:30. Missionary meetings Wednesday, 7:45. All are welcomed.

Mr. Walter E. Nader and Miss Ethel Lynn were joined in Holy matrimony on New Year's Eve by Rev. H. A. Davenport of the People's Presbyterian church, in the presence of a few friends. Mr. and Mrs. Nader have recently come to Bridgeport from Ohio, and will make this city their home. Mr. Nader is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles C. Lynn who have taken residence on Transept Ave.

St. John's church, corner Fairfield and Park avenues, Rev. W. H. Lewis, D. D. rector. Morning service, 10:30 a. m.; Holy Communion, 10:30 a. m.; Men's Bible Class, 9 a. m.; Sunday school and women's Bible Class 12 m.; Evening prayer, 5 p. m. Wednesday (Epiphany) Holy Communion in the chapel, 11 a. m.

Sunday services at St. Joseph's German R. C. church for Jan. 3rd, will be as follows: First mass, 8:30; second mass 10:30; Sunday School, 10:45; meeting of Children of Mary Sodality at 9:15 a. m., and vespers and Benediction at 4 p. m.

In the First Methodist Episcopal church, Fairfield Ave. and Broad street at 10:30 a. m. to-morrow there will be the reception of members and the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Sunday school will meet at 10:15. At 6:30 the Epworth League service will be conducted by Mr. F. B. Florian. At 7:30 the pastor, George M. Brown will preach upon: "A Review and a Preview," a New Year message.

The services at the German Reformed Church Sunday will be very interesting. At the morning services at 10:30 a. m. Messrs. Frederick Anton and Leo Schmidt as Elders and John Wetner and Rudolph Laubscher, recently chosen by a unanimous vote to again grace the executive will be officially and impressively installed by Rev. Herma ng. Wiemer. The regular liturgy of the services will then follow and at the conclusion the Lord's Supper will be partaken of with pastor as celebrant. Evening services will be held at 7:30 and be conducted by pastor Wiemer and chorus choir will help to make the services impressive.

## HILL FOR SENATOR

How One Member of the Legislature Views Things.

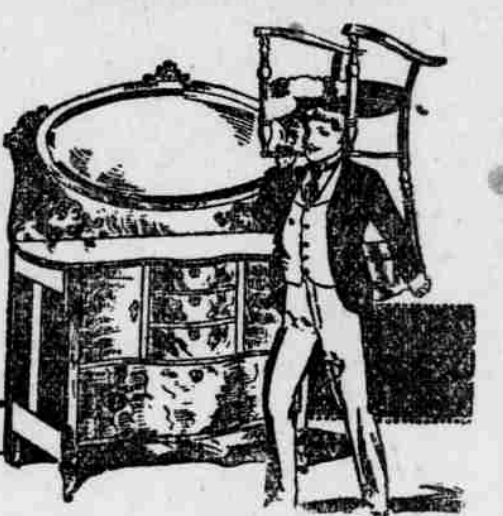
To the Editor of The Courant:

Any man who votes for Mr. Brandegee does so with his eyes wide open. The United States Senate is divided into two camps, and the line of cleavage between them is tolerably distinct. One camp has stood with Mr. Brandegee; the other has stood with the people. Mr. Brandegee was elected to the Senate as a young man. The future was high and bright before him, and imagination and a sense of responsibility of any man with aspirations and ideals. He was no novice. He had served three terms in the lower House. He knew Washington. He liberally he made his choice, and lined up with the cabal of senators-of whom Aldrich, Foraker, Platt and Penrose are types—who have fought tooth and nail to keep the country every measure of constructive reform that Theodore Roosevelt has advocated. Then they fought the nomination of Secretary Taft, and there Mr. Brandegee stands. He has made his alignments, and cannot break away from them if he would. The hopeless thing about our junior senator is not primarily what he has done, or what he has failed to do; it is his unmistakable instincts and tendencies—the way he is headed. If re-elected at this time he will probably serve the state for the next twenty-four or thirty years. This is a serious matter. For what did the people of this state give Mr. Taft 44,000 majority, if they did not want to send men to Washington who would back him up? How do you think Hill and Brandegee would come out on a popular vote? Let us not mistake the issue. Brandegee is not on trial. Hill is not on trial. The state of Connecticut is not on trial—she has rendered her verdict. It is the General Assembly that is on trial—the mental and moral fiber of the men that make it up.

It is evidently a part of the plan of campaign of Mr. Brandegee's managers to claim that it is "all over but the shouting." This is clever strategy and entirely legitimate, as politics go. It is a cordial invitation to all of us to "climb on." It is also a subtle warning to the timid and faithless to keep off the grass and be good. Well, possibly it is "all over." I don't know. I only have my own vote. But unless I receive convincing evidence to the contrary, I will follow the temper and traditions of the state of Connecticut, there are a great many members of the incoming Assembly, still unpledged—probably more than a hundred—who are doing some honest thinking on this senatorial question, and not making much talk about it. These men, and not the political press agents and claim-mongers who panic and jest and "saw" are but the expression of

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Best Quality Ready-made Shades, complete with fixtures, spring roller, etc., with coupon, 18c

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Portieres, Lace Curtains, Couch, Covers, Etc.  
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## MISS CANNEY TO READ "AS YOU LIKE IT."

Miss Mary Canney of New York city presents a reading of "As You Like It" before the English Club next Tuesday evening, January 5. Miss Canney enjoys great popularity in her chosen field. The Philadelphia Times says of her that she is an artist of great dramatic power. The Buffalo Times speaks of her conception of Rosalind as not that of a hoydenish girl, but of a dear womanly woman whose frank and jests and "saw" are but the expression of

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Established 1857.

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### Men's Underwear

**Very Special**  
Root's Tivoli Underwear, an old make and very well known, but which is seldom reduced from regular price, but we are to make concessions this sale

**Shirts and Drawers**  
**89 cts each**

One of the best values we ever offered.

### Men's Sweater Vests

All pure wool, a regular vest with no sleeves, worth regularly \$3.00, at **\$1.98**

### Toilet Wares

**Water Bottles**

2 pts., worth \$2.00 at **\$1.25**

3 qts., worth \$2.25 at **\$1.35**

**Talcum Powder,**

pound cans **25 cts**

**Castile Soap,** worth 69 cts at **58 cts**

### Belts

The great number of our 50 ct Belts are marked at **25 cts**

### Umbrellas

Men's 28-inch Umbrellas, fine quality silk and linen, with either plain or fancy boxwood handles, value \$3.00, at **\$1.98**

Women's 26-inch Gloria silk Umbrellas, usually sold at \$1.50 and \$1.75, at **\$1.29**

### Bedroom Furniture

#### Showing Special Reductions

##### Oak Dressers

Value \$49.25 at **\$33.50**

Value \$41.50 at **\$29.50**

Value \$36.75 at **\$25.00**

Value \$20.75 at **\$16.50**

**Maple Dressers**

Value \$49.50 at **\$33.00**

Value \$32.25 at **\$25.00**

##### Princess Dressers

Value \$15.50 at **\$12.40**

##### Chiffoniers

Value \$34.00 at **\$27.20**

Value \$28.00 at **\$22.40**

Value \$36.00 at **\$25.00**

Value \$24.00 at **\$19.20**

##### Dressing Tables

Value \$25.00 at **\$17.50**

Value \$20.00 at **\$12.50**

##### Children's Dressers

Value \$35.25 at **\$25.00**

### Bookcases

##### Mahogany

Value \$52.75 at **\$42.20**

Value \$48.00 at **\$38.40**

Value \$29.50 at **\$23.60**

Value \$16.00 at **\$12.80**

##### Oak

Value \$40.00 at **\$32.00**

Value \$32.00 at **\$25.60**

Value \$28.50 at **\$22.80**

Value \$16.00 at **\$12.80**

### Hall Furniture

##### Oak Mirrors

Value \$27.25 at **\$20.00**

Value \$24.00 at **\$18.00**

Value \$19.25 at **\$13.50**

Value \$16.00 at **\$12.50**

##### Oak Racks

Value \$26.50 at **\$20.00**

Value \$24.00 at **\$17.50**

Value \$10.00 at **\$7.50**

Value \$ 6.75 at **\$5.00**

##### Oak Hall Seats

Value \$24.00 at **\$15.00**

Value \$16.00 at **\$12.00**

Fourth Floor, elevator in Carpet Store.

### Articles which have

the special twenty per cent. reduction

Cut Glass, Silverware, and Fancy Odd China.

Our splendid lines of Lamps, Gas Portables and Electroliers.

### Notions

#### and Sewing Necessities

10 ct Mohair Skirt

Braid, ..... 6 cts

10 ct Black Mercerized Braid, ..... 6 cts

10 ct Florence Skirt

Braid, ..... 5 cts.

15 ct Trimming

Braids, ..... 9 cts

Sewing Silk, 400 yds 20 cts

Grip Socket Fasteners, ..... 5 cts

English Tape, 10 yds 5 cts

Elastic Waist Supporters, ..... 5 cts

Machine Oil, 4 ozs., ..... 3 cts

Silk Shoe Laces, 2 for 5 cts

Shoe Laces, 6 prs for 5 cts

Whisk Brooms ..... 7 cts

With other tempting values which it is impossible to quote.

### Linen Torchon Lace

Edges from one to one and a half, 6 to 10 cts a yd.

### Dress Trimmings

Odd Trimmings and broken lines in fine grades, Passementeries and Laces, that are rare bargains.

### Fancy Handkerchiefs

Lace trimmed and Embroidered. A lot of mussed and slightly soiled Handkerchiefs left from the Holiday rush.

13 ct quality, 9 cts, 3 for 25 cts

25 ct quality, 19 cts, 3 for 50 cts

50 ct quality, 35 cts, 3 for \$1.00

An odd lot of Fine Handkerchiefs, some of them hand embroidered, at reduced prices.

Children's Handkerchiefs, 2 for 5 cts

## The D. M. Read Co.

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